



THOROUGHbred FARM

P. 1
EXHIBIT 6
DATE 2/8/2011
SBIB 16

8 FEBRUARY 2011

MONTANA HOUSE BUSINESS AND LABOR
COMMITTEE
ATTN: CHAIR ARNTZEN AND MEMBERS

FOR THE RECORD, I AM DALE MAHLUM WHO
LIVES NORTH OF MISSOULA ON A HORSE
BREEDING FARM. I WOULD COMPLETELY LOVE
TO BE AT THE CAPITAL TODAY TO ADDRESS THIS
BODY, DUE TO THE WEATHER, I AM NOT ABLE TO
TRAVEL.

PLEASE LET ME ADDRESS THIS BODY ON THE
FOLLOWING LETTER.

AGAIN, PLEASE FORGIVE MY PERSONAL
ABSENCE.

MONTANA HAS NUMEROUS SMALL BREEDERS OF HORSES, BOTH QUARTER AND THOROUGHBRED, WHO ARE USED AS RACE HORSES.

ABOUT FOUR YEARA AGO, OUR CURRENT GOVERNOR APPOINTED A TASK FORCE TO LOOK INTO THE HORSE RACING INDUSTRY . THIS BODY OF NINE PEOPLE TRAVELED THE STATE TO EVERY RACING JURISDICTION TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS REGARDING THE HORSE INDUSTRY IN OUR STATE. AFTER A YEAR OF 11 MEETINGS AND HAVING A SURVEY TAKEN BY MSU-BILLINGS AND PAID FOR BY MEMBERS OF THE INDUSTRY, THE FOLLOWING CONCLUSION WAS GIVEN TO THE TASK FORCE, MONTANA HORSE BUSINESS WAS OVER 50 MILLION AG-INDUSTRY.

IT IS NOT JUST THE HORSE YOU SEE ON THE TRACK, IT IS THE FARM THAT RAISES THAT HORSE AND THE TRAINER WHO GETS THE HORSE READY TO COMPETE AT THE RACE TRACKS.

IT IS THE FEED, THE VETERNARIAN, THE TRUCKING INDUSTRY, THE HAY MAN, THE FARRIER, THE PROPERTY TAXES PAID BY THE SMALL BREEDER TO THEIR COUNTY. SO MANY INCIDENTALS GO INTO RAISING A HORSE.

WHEN A HORSE GOES TO THE TRACK AFTER BREAKING TO SADDLE, IT TAKES SEVERAL MONTHS BEFORE THE HORSE IS REALLY READY TO PERFORM IN A ACTUAL RACE.

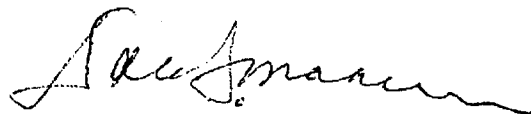
THE BEAUTY AND PAGEANTRY OF A HORSE ON THE TRACK IS WHAT SO MANY PEOPLE COME TO WATCH AND ADMIRE. SOME PEOPLE DO NOT COME TO BET, OTHERS BET AMONGST THEMSELVES---BUT SO MANY JUST ENJOY WATCHING THE HORSE PERFORM AGAINST OTHER HORSES AS THEY MOVE GRACEFULLY ALONG ON A OVAL TRACK.

SB16 IS A LEGISLATIVE MATTER THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO THIS BODY YEARS AGO AS IT KEEPS A PART OF THE FUNDS THAT BETTORS PROVIDE WITH THE INDUSTRY INSTEAD OF HAVING A THIRD PARTY WHO TAKES FUNDS FOR DOING WHAT THE BOHR CAN DO WITH THIS BILL AND THUS RETAINING THESE FUNDS WITHIN THE INDUSTRY TO BE USED BY THE HORSE INDUSTRY FOR BETTER PURSES, FOR HELPING BREEDERS BONUS'S AND FOR HELPING WITH LOCAL FAIRGROUNDS TO UPGRADE THE INFRASTRUCTURE OF THEIR GROUNDS.

THIS BILL, SB16, IS SURELY A WINNER IN ALL ASPECTS FOR THE AGRI-HORSE INDUSTRY OF MONTANA.

I WOULD ENCOURAGE YOUR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION OF THIS BILL.

RESPECTFULLY YOURS DALE MAHLUM

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dale Mahlum", written in dark ink.